





Wabash Plain Dealer

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Shining light on Wabash County since 1859.

Tomorrow's
weather **62** | **55** 



**Pulse
of Wabash**

Attention

Class of 2020

The Wabash Plain Dealer is launching an interactive campaign to celebrate our Wabash County seniors! With COVID-19 disrupting graduation plans and daily life for our students, we want to do something special to commemorate their hard work and memories. We are posting photo challenges at www.facebook.com/wabashpd and the best submissions will be featured on our website and in a special section published at the end of the school year. Submit your favorite memories to news@wabashplaindealer.com or post your memories and photos to your social media page using the hashtag #WCClassof2020 to participate.

Notice to readers

To reduce risks to our employees and community, the Wabash Plain Dealer is closed to the public until further notice. Payments may be dropped in the mail slot or called in. For news, call 260-225-4662 or email news@wabashplaindealer.com. For advertising, call 260-225-4947 or email tcampbell@puginmi.com. For circulation and customer support, call 260-563-2131. To bring you the most accurate information about the evolving COVID-19 pandemic, the Wabash Plain Dealer has decided to prioritize news content over sports stories since sporting events are canceled for the time being. The Wabash Plain Dealer is committed to providing the best product to its customers and appreciates the support during this time. Thank you.

Gov. Holcomb announces stages of reopening plan

Hoosiers 65 and over and those with high-risk health conditions – who are the most vulnerable to the coronavirus – should remain at home. Essential travel restrictions are lifted, and social gatherings of up to 25 people are permitted following the CDC's social distancing guidelines. The remaining manufacturers, industrial and other infrastructure operations that had not been considered essential may open. Hoosiers who can work from home are encouraged to continue to do so. Retail and commercial businesses may open at 50 percent capacity. Examples include apparel, furniture, jewelry and liquor stores

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Provided photo

Charley Creek Inn opened its doors May 6, 1920, as Hotel Indiana.

Charley Creek Inn celebrates its 100th anniversary despite virus

‘Georgian Revival gem’
opened its doors May 6,
1920 as Hotel Indiana

By **ROB BURGESS**

Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

In honor of Charley Creek Inn's centennial, several festivities were planned including a First Friday Centennial Celebration and Miami Street Block party, but due to the global coronavirus pandemic, they have been postponed until the pandemic subsides, according to Howard Kaler, general manager.

“While we are honored to celebrate our centennial, our top priority is to maintain the health and safety of our staff, guests, and community members throughout this unprecedented global pandemic. Although it's important to take a moment to think about our history until such time authorities allow us to return to our normal operating schedule, we are postponing our 100th Anniversary festivities,” stated general Kaler.

Pandemic causes crunch in the restaurant, hospitality industry

The COVID-19 pandemic has wreaked havoc on many industries, and the restaurant and hospitality industries have been among the hardest hit.

In response to a Plain Dealer request on Thursday, Kari Highley, director of marketing and sales, stated carry-out wasn't viable financially for Charley Creek Inn.

“So, regretfully, we had to lay off our food and beverage staff. As the state slowly begins to open, we are faced not only with training staff on heightened sanitary measures and new procedures but also with the impact of seating capacity cut to 50 percent,” stated Highley. “New regulations will



Photo by Rob Burgess / Plain Dealer

Signs on the exterior of the building celebrating the 100th anniversary were installed in January.

also change the atmosphere of Twenty as tables will no longer be covered with table cloths for dinner service and pre-set table settings are a thing of the past for the foreseeable future.”

Highley stated travel restrictions have also burdened the hotel with weddings-related events, graduation celebrations, business meetings, church retreats, class reunions and family reunions canceling through August.

“Therefore, revenue throughout the entire operation – guest rooms, food, beverage and shoppes – has taken a major hit. We value our relationship with our community, guests, and staff, and thank you for placing your trust in Charley Creek Inn. We are committed to staying connected with you as we all navigate these unprecedented times,” stated Highley.

Highley stated customers who wish to support the Charley Creek Inn during this unprecedented time may:

■ Reserve a future stay by visiting <https://res.windysurfercrs.com/ibe/>

[index.aspx?propertyid=16362](https://www.charleycreekinn.com/index.aspx?propertyid=16362).

■ Purchase a gift card online by visiting <https://charleycreekinn.securetree.com/>

■ Leave us a review on Google, Yelp, TripAdvisor or Facebook

■ Share social media posts

Celebrating history

Kaler stated the “Georgian Revival gem” opened its doors May 6, 1920, as Hotel Indiana.

“After falling into disrepair throughout many lively decades, the gracious hotel obtained a new lease on life in 2007, when local philanthropist and historic preservation aficionado Richard E. Ford, of the Ford Meter Box family, bought the building and renovated it to perfection,” stated Kaler.

Kaler stated although festivities are delayed, in celebration of its 100th anniversary, Charley Creek Inn has released its French Onion Soup recipe and challenged the public to

See **ANNIVERSARY**, page A3

Living Well begins federal grant application process

CARES Act requires
18-month budget
for the first time

By **ROB BURGESS**

Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

During Monday's Wabash County Commissioners meeting, Beverly Ferry, CEO of Living Well in Wabash County, was given unanimous approval to begin the 2020-2021 Section 5311 grant application.

The Federal Section 5311 Program was created to provide public transportation in

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Lutheran Health Network resumes some inpatient procedures

Patients must
meet low-risk
criteria to proceed

STAFF REPORT

Lutheran Health Network resumed some elective inpatient surgeries for patients who meet low-risk criteria following all local, state and federal guidelines Monday, May 11, according to Kara Stevenson, communications coordinator.

“Emergency and clinically necessary surgeries will continue and surgeries requiring possible admission will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. As always, procedural decisions will be determined between the physician and patient as medical judgment takes precedence,” stated

See **NETWORK**, page A3

INDOT: Keep campaign signs out of state right-of-way

Personnel will
remove these and
other illegal signs

STAFF REPORT

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) would like to remind Hoosiers to keep campaign signs out of the state highway right-of-way, according to a press

release.

Campaign signs are prohibited in these areas by Indiana Code 9-21-4-6.

Signs are not permitted in state right-of-way at any time of the year, whether it is a primary or general election cycle.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the primary election date in Indiana has moved to

See **SIGNS**, page A3

Holcomb signs executive order extending BMV deadlines

Expiring driver's licenses, ID
cards, vehicle registrations
valid through June 4

STAFF REPORT

On Friday, Gov. Eric J. Holcomb signed Executive Order 20-27 to further extend the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) renewal deadlines, according to Rachel Hoffmeyer, press secretary.

Driver's licenses, identification cards and vehicle registrations that expire before June 4 will now be valid through June 4.

The executive order also extends the

BMV's deadlines for title transactions, salvage titles, and off-road vehicle and snowmobile titles.

Additionally, the executive order provides an extension to June 4 for anyone who has an expiring state-issued professional license or permit.

“To recruit poll workers for Indiana's upcoming primary election, the executive order also ensures election workers can collect their stipend without reducing their unemployment benefits,” stated Hoffmeyer.

The executive order also extends specific individual and business tax deadlines to match federal law.

For more information, visit <https://www.in.gov/gov/2384.htm>.

If cash is king right now because of the coronavirus, so, too, is being mortgage-free

As the stock market skyrocketed and mortgage interest rates fell, financial experts encouraged people to put any extra money they had into their retirement accounts rather than pay off their mortgages early.

The reasoning behind such advice was twofold. Homeowners could potentially earn more by investing extra funds in the bull market than they saved by paying down their mortgage.

And however much they spent on mortgage interest, they'd get some of the money back at tax time.

I've never been a fan of this advice, for a few reasons.

■ Stocks have more risk. Unlike the stock market, paying off your mortgage early offers a guaranteed return. Shorten your mortgage by paying it down sooner, and you pay less in mortgage interest.

And, as we've seen since the coronavirus began spreading, the stock market can be extremely volatile as investors respond to economic downturns by fleeing to safer investments. Over time, investors have historically seen positive returns, but in any given period, that's not a guarantee. We are in one of those uncertain periods now.

■ The mortgage interest deduction isn't as significant as you think. Keep in mind that this tax break is a deduction, not a credit. A tax credit reduces, dollar for dollar, the taxes you owe. A deduction eliminates only a percentage of your income subject to taxation.

The vast majority of homeowners don't claim the mortgage interest deduction

at all: They take the standard deduction rather than itemizing. You have to itemize on your return to take the mortgage interest deduction.

The number of homeowners who benefit from the mortgage tax break plummeted following the passage of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which nearly doubled the standard deduction, with the result that fewer taxpayers itemized deductions on their tax returns. The tax law reduced the share of taxpayers claiming the mortgage-interest deduction from 23 percent to 11 percent, according to the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy.

■ There's value in not worrying about the roof over your head. If you're a homeowner, you can weather a financial storm a lot longer if your housing expense is confined to a manageable property tax bill and a homeowner's insurance premium.

"It's been a great feeling ever since we went to the bank to make the very last payment," a North Carolina reader wrote. "Right now we feel incredibly fortunate that we don't have any monetary stress and know that if something happens to our – or even one of our – jobs, we'll be OK."

With unemployment up and tens of millions of folks out of work, I wanted to revisit the debate about paying off a mortgage early with financial adviser Ric Edelman. We've had many long and friendly discussions about this issue.

I asked Edelman recently if he had changed his mind given current economic conditions. He doubled down arguing that it's still better for people to invest extra funds rather than tying up the cash in a home, creating a situation referred to as being "house rich, cash poor."

"None of that money is helping you pay your bills.

I have all this money in investments, readily available, liquid and accessible," he said. "You know: You're house rich. I'm investment rich."

It's true that when a crisis hits and you lose your job, you'll need cash, and you may not be able to access the equity in your home.

"I just refinanced our house to a 30-year fixed rate at 2.875 percent," Edelman said. "Now, why wouldn't I want to keep that mortgage for as long as I can? I'm going to take the thousands of dollars in savings from the lower payments and throw it into investments."

To Edelman's point, here are some things to consider before paying off your mortgage early.

■ Do you have high-interest debt? If so, tackle this first before you make extra principle payments on your mortgage.

■ Do you have an adequate emergency fund? "The problem is that there are some people who have only paid off their mortgage right to the point where they have nothing left," he said. "They have no cash because they've diverted every dollar to getting rid of the loan. And today, they're out of work with no income and no savings or investments, but they have a ton of home equity. Well, that's not putting food on their table."

Edelman's right. But, I'm right, too.

So, don't cripple your cash reserves on a quest to be mortgage-free. But if you can save, invest and get rid of your mortgage when an economic storm hits, you'll be in a better position to ride it out.

Readers can write to Michelle Singletary c/o The Washington Post, 1301 K St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20071. Her email address is michelle.singletary@washpost.com.

IRS stimulus payment recipients lash out against Trump's 'vanity letter'

By MICHELLE SINGLETARY

A mother didn't get the extra \$500 for her dependent child under 17, and a single father received only one child payment, although he has two eligible children.

Another person's stimulus money was deposited into the wrong bank account.

A man received a \$1,200 payment for his sister who died last year, and he's not sure whether he can keep the money or if the IRS will claw it back.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (Cares) Act, signed into law March 27, provides a \$1,200 refundable tax credit for individuals and \$2,400 for joint taxpayers. People whose adjusted gross income qualifies them to receive a stimulus payment are supposed to receive an additional \$500 for every dependent child under 17. The Treasury Department and the IRS reported last week that an initial 88.1 million payments worth nearly \$158 billion had been issued.

But the rush to get money to tens of millions of people has resulted in payment errors – like the examples above.

The Cares Act set out a way for people to verify that they received the right amount and seek help to resolve problems with their stimulus payments.

The law says a letter should be mailed to a taxpayer's last known address 15 days after a stimulus payment is sent. The letter is supposed to indicate the method by which a payment was made (direct deposit or check, for instance), the amount of the payment and a phone number for the "appropriate point of contact" at the Internal Revenue Service to report any issue.

It's now been 15 days

since tens of millions of people were sent stimulus money, and per the law, the IRS began mailing letters to payment recipients.

However, what should have been an instructive letter coming from either the Treasury or the IRS reads more like a message that the Trump reelection campaign would send out to voters.

"Just as we have before, America will triumph yet again – and rise to new heights of greatness," the letter says.

This language is just another way of restating Trump's 2016 campaign slogan, "Make America Great Again," or the president's 2020 rallying cry, "Keep America Great."

Although Trump thanks Congress for passing the Cares Act, he strategically leads into the information about the stimulus payment by beginning, "I am pleased to notify you ..."

Readers are complaining that the letter is highly inappropriate. While the envelope reads Treasury Department and the IRS, once it has been opened, the letterhead says, "The White House."

The Treasury didn't immediately respond to questions about the complaints.

"Worried that I had been selected for an audit, or some other misfortune, I quickly opened it," Chris Helmsworth emailed from Portland, Oregon. "Inside was a letter from the White House, signed with Trump's childlike scrawl, telling me about how he was bringing the country together! I have to wonder how much personal protective equipment could have been purchased with what it cost for Trump to send out this vanity letter."

It's worth noting that President George W. Bush included his name in letters

about economic stimulus payments in 2008. But the mention was brief, and those letters – sent by the IRS – appropriately focused on how payments were determined. There were far more details from which people could figure out for themselves whether their payments were correct. The recent economic impact letter signed by Trump offers scant information about the stimulus payments.

"I received a paper letter from the IRS, a full page of self-congratulatory nonsense, signed by Trump, with the big Sharpie signature, telling me that I had received the money," said another reader, in Massachusetts. "Ironically, it also got the amount wrong by 15 cents."

Here's the biggest problem with the one-page letter. People are told to call a toll-free number for assistance.






But don't bother calling. It will just make you frustrated.

At this point, the "Economic Impact Payment" telephone line is just an automated system that tells you to go to irs.gov for more information. With a vastly reduced staff because of stay-at-home orders to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, you can't get to a real person to hear your complaint or take your report of a missing or incorrect payment.

David Aneckstein of State College, Pennsylvania, was supposed to receive \$2,200. He got \$1,700 – his individual \$1,200 payment plus \$500 for one of his two children, ages 12 and 14. He's still missing \$500 for one child.





"I waited for my letter from the IRS explaining my payment and the number to call to report an issue with the payment," Aneckstein said.

5-Day Weather Summary

 Tuesday Mostly Cloudy 59 / 40	 Wednesday Mostly Cloudy 62 / 55	 Thursday Showers Likely 71 / 64	 Friday Showers Likely 69 / 61	 Saturday Few Showers 71 / 60
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Sun and Moon

Today's sunset 8:56 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise 6:32 a.m.

 Last 5/14	 New 5/22	 First 5/29	 Full 6/5
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Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see mostly cloudy skies, high of 59°, humidity of 40%. West southwest wind 5 to 9 mph. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight, overnight low of 40°. South southeast wind 1 to 8 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 36°. Wednesday, skies will be mostly cloudy, high of 62°, humidity of 43%.

Most food still ok past sell-by date

Hello again, dear readers, and thank you for joining us for this month's letters column. It's a difficult and challenging time, and we're more grateful than ever for the community that has sprung up in response to Ask the Doctors.

-- A reader from Ohio, Illinois, who is her dad's caregiver, asked for guidance on expiration dates on food items. "He buys more food than he needs, and it stays in the refrigerator well past the 'sell-by' date," she wrote. "I've brought it up several times, but we just argue because he thinks it's OK."

You're correct that it's important to be vigilant about food freshness and safety. Older adults are at increased risk of hospitalization, and even death, due to food-borne illness. You mentioned your father's handling of prepared foods, like baked chicken, as well as staples like eggs and bacon. It's helpful to know that the sell-by dates on packaged foods refer to food quality rather than food safety. Eggs that remain refrigerated are safe to use for up to three weeks beyond the sell-by date. A package of bacon can be kept refrigerated for up to a week beyond the sell-by date. With prepared foods, however, the window becomes much smaller. When refrigerated properly, cooked chicken will last for three to four days. After that, it's not safe and should be thrown away.

-- A reader from Omaha, Nebraska, wondered about health benefits attributed to a few teaspoonfuls of apple cider vinegar per day. It's an age-old folk remedy, and while many of the claims are far-fetched – no, you can't replace blood pressure meds with apple cider vinegar – there is some evidence that it can be helpful. For instance, studies have shown that apple cider vinegar may play a modest role in control of blood sugar. It may also aid in weight loss by suppressing appetite. How-

Elizabeth Ko & Eve Glazier
Ask the Doctors



ever, apple cider vinegar is an acid, which can erode tooth enamel. Be sure to always rinse your mouth thoroughly after having any.

-- A reader from Dallas, Pennsylvania, sent us an ingredient label from his favorite food, a prepared meal of Salisbury steak with macaroni and cheese. He asks if it contains dangerous ingredients. Although the ingredients themselves are benign, the nutritional information has some bad news. One serving contains 1,110 micrograms of sodium, which is almost half the recommended daily value. The saturated fat content is also a bit high, at 30 percent. Rather than a daily meal, it would be wise to make this a weekly treat. Instead, add some lean meat, fresh vegetables, whole grains and healthy oils to your diet. Your body – and your fam-

ily doctor – will thank you.

-- After reading a column about improving indoor air quality during a wildfire, a reader from Tulsa, Oklahoma, was baffled by the advice to refrain from dusting or vacuuming. "How do you keep the house clean?" he wrote. "Isn't it impossible?" Those tasks kick up significant particulates, so it's wise to defer them when air quality is bad, as during a wildfire. Once the outdoor air has cleared, it's safe to dust and vacuum.

Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Send your questions to askthedoctors@mednet.ucla.edu, or write: Ask the Doctors, c/o UCLA Health Sciences Media Relations, 10880 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1450, Los Angeles, CA, 90024. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.



Wabash Plain Dealer

99 W. Canal St.
Wabash, Ind. 46992

VOL. 162 NO. 92

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Circulation

- **Customer Service**
Telephone Hours:
260-563-2131
Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday,
8 a.m. - 11 a.m.

■ **Office Hours:**
Monday-Friday:
9 a.m. - noon; 1 - 5 p.m.

■ **Delivery:** Your newspaper is delivered by the USPS and will arrive with your daily mail.

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- account is active, call us at 260-563-2131.

■ **Home delivery subscription rates:** Daily, 13 weeks, \$59.50. EZ-Pay, monthly, \$18.65. Other payment options available by calling Subscriber Services at 260-563-2131.

POSTMASTER: Send address change to Wabash Plain Dealer, 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

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- **Office Hours:**
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- Friday-Sunday:
Hours vary
■ **Call:** 260-563-2131
■ **Email:** news@wabashplaindealer.com

(Please call in advance of your visit.)

USPS 663-940

Wabash Plain Dealer established September 1858

Published Tuesdays through Saturdays (except on postal holidays) by Paxton Media Group, by the Wabash Plain Dealer, 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992. Periodical postage paid at Wabash, Ind.

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Obituaries

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Mary Lou Carpenter

Graveside services and burial for Mary Lou Carpenter, 86, of rural Wabash, Indiana, were Saturday, May 9, 2020, at Friends Cemetery, Wabash. Pallbearers were Gary Eltzroth, Dave Wagmer, Jo Guthrie, Will Guthrie, Mary McKenzie, and Joseph McKenzie. Arrangements by Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash.

Elsie Lee Willis Wilburn

June 30, 1919 – May 9, 2020

Elsie Lee Willis Wilburn, 100, Peru, died May 9. Born June 30, 1919, in Pilot, Kentucky. She married Wiley S. Wilburn. Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. on Friday, May 15, 2020, at McClain Funeral Home, Denver, Indiana. Burial will be in Greenlawn Cemetery, Mexico, Indiana. Visitation will be from noon until 3 p.m. on Friday, at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to Skinner Chapel. McClain Funeral Home, Denver, Indiana, has been entrusted with arrangements. Condolences may be sent online at www.mcclainfh.com.

PENDING SERVICES

Charles Fredrick “Chuck” McMasters: 58, of Lagro, Indiana, died at his home in Lagro. He was born May 7, 1962 in Phoenix, Arizona. There will be no services. Arrangements by Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash.

H. Robert “Bob” James: 57, of rural Wabash, Indiana, died at 4:25 pm, Sunday, May 10, 2020 at Parkview Wabash Hospital. Friends may call 3-5 pm Thursday, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash.

GRANT

From page A1

non-urbanized areas with a population of 50,000 or less. The purpose of the program is to provide transportation to people living in rural areas, according to the state of Indiana. In response to a Plain Dealer request Thursday, Ferry stated this is an annual process they go through when submitting the operating grant for the next year. “It is a standard format,” stated Ferry. However, Ferry stated the difference this year is that budget will run July 1, 2020 through Dec. 31, 2021. Ferry stated this first-time 18-month budget is a result of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Ferry stated that another difference in this budget besides the length of time it covers is that they are not applying for new vehicles next year. “It is a separate grant and budget but is done at the same time as the operating grant. We don’t think that our fleet will experience the normal amount of use, wear and tear in the next year and a half due to COVID-19,” stated Ferry. “I am just bringing the standard transit operating grant and need to get signatures. The county is the government entity through which Wabash County Public Transportation operates.” *Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplainedealer.com*

NETWORK

From page A1

Stevenson. “Safety remains the highest priority.” Precautions at our hospitals, clinics and urgent care centers include:

- Limited access points and social distancing protocols
- Screening everyone who enters our doors, including employees
- Requiring all staff, visitors, employees and physicians to wear masks
- Establishing Non-COVID-19 Care Zones with dedicated staff

■ Isolating COVID-19 patients to one area with a dedicated provider team

■ Emphasizing cleaning and disinfection, especially frequently touched surfaces

■ Random temperature checks for employees

■ Visitor restrictions

“It’s important for members of our community to put their health first and to be able to access the care they need. We encourage our patients to always seek immediate emergency medical care for serious conditions such as heart attack or stroke,” stated Stevenson.

SIGNS

From page A1

June 2. Areas that should remain sign-free include:

- Intersections
- Interchanges
- Right-of-way that runs parallel to highways, including medians, shoulders and roadside areas
- Where the right of way is not marked, boundaries may be estimated as the fence line, the back of the ditch or behind utility poles

“INDOT personnel will remove campaign signs and other illegal signs from right-of-way areas as they are encountered in normal highway maintenance activities. Crews may also remove

a specific sign if it presents an immediate safety risk, such as being too close to the roadway or creating a sight obstruction. Campaign signs placed outside the right-of-way will not be removed,” stated the release. Signs that are removed will be taken to the nearest INDOT facility and may be claimed by the owner between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding major holidays. “Please note that during Gov. Holcomb’s stay-at-home order, signs will not be available for pick-up,” stated the release. To report signs placed in the right-of-way, visit <http://www.indot4u.com> or call 855-463-6848.

Pandemic spurs northwest Indiana YMCA camp to cancel all of its summer camps

BROOKSTON, Ind. (AP) — A northwestern Indiana YMCA camp that’s been a summer destination for generations of children has canceled its summer camps for the first time in its nearly 100-year history to protect young campers from the coronavirus pandemic. Camp Tecumseh YMCA officials said the 660-acre riverside camp will be vacant this summer for the first time since it opened in 1924 because they didn’t believe they’d be able to

guarantee campers’ safety with so many unknowns about the spread of coronavirus, the Journal & Courier reported. Camp Tecumseh’s CEO, Scott Brosman, said 6,000 campers were expected for overnight and day camp sessions that were filled before this spring. He said part of the decision to cancel the summer camps was driven by how difficult it would be to track local infection rates, given that campers – at any given session – come from 17 to

20 states and between five and seven countries. “Camp is based on a social experience and being around one another,” Brosman said. “We finally decided, how were we going to do that, keeping a six-foot distance, with all the things that are staples at Camp Tecumseh? We just couldn’t.” Brosman said families have been offered refunds, along with opportunities to apply deposits toward camps in 2021.

ANNIVERSARY

From page A1

participate in a trivia contest. French Onion Soup made its debut on Twenty Restaurant’s menu in 2010. While the dish is traditionally made with beef stock, Executive Chef Eric Wilson’s variation features veal stock, caramelized onions, croutons and Gruyère cheese. Originally planned as part of the First Friday Centennial Celebration, the 100th Anniversary trivia contest has been made digital. Wabash history buffs or those just looking for some competition are encouraged to enter the contest by visiting <https://marketing410320.typeform.com/to/vw4Fou>. Those who answer all questions correctly will be entered for a chance to win a \$50 gift certificate. The winner will be contacted the week of May 18. Kaler stated in honor of the milestone, the charming, boutique hotel is inviting travelers to enjoy Wabash’s original central landmark with a memorial Centennial Package once travel restrictions lift. Valid throughout 2020, the anniversary package includes an overnight stay, \$50 resort credit, a commemorative 100th Anniversary collective wine gift box with two glasses and choice of “Centennial Cuvee” Dry Red Table Wine or “Centennial White Blend” Semi-Sweet White Table Wine. “Charley Creek Inn has teamed up with the 2019 Indiana Winery of the Year, Country Heritage Winery of LaOtto, Indiana, to create these two signature wines that express the best characteristics of the Midwestern climate and soil where they are grown,” stated Kaler. “These signature wines are also available for purchase by the glass and bottle from the Wine & Cheese Shoppe and Twenty Restaurant. The Green Hat Lounge, uniting an exquisite blend of modernism with the Prohibition era, is celebrating the anniversary with a signature Centennial Cocktail: ‘Wabash Cannonball.’ A spin on El Presidente, which was popular the same decade as Charley Creek Inn opened, it’s made from Bacardi Tangerine Rum, Captain Morgan Pineapple Rum, Luxardo Cherry Liqueur, Elderflower Liqueur, lemon juice, apple cider, bitters and Crème de Menthe. To mark the occasion, Charley Creek Inn is extending hospitality by giving away one free lunch a week to guests who enter

their business card in a drawing. Also, guests who spend at least \$100 during a visit (excluding banquet, gift card or hotel room purchases) will be entered in a quarterly drawing for a more elaborate prize, including the opportunity for a private dinner for four in the Cloud Club, wine tasting for 12 in The Courtyard, birthday party in the Ice Cream & Candy Shoppe, or overnight stay in a deluxe suite with Executive Chef Eric Wilson preparing a private dinner in the room.” Kaler stated as another part of the celebration, four additional rooms are being named for “outstanding citizens and organizations” in the Wabash community. “Waterworks industry manufacturer Ford Meter Box Company, American Christian author Colleen Coble, Miami Indian Nation/Frances Slocum, and White’s Residential & Family Services/basketball Olympic Gold Medalist Clyde Lovellette will be honored in a room naming ceremony at a later date,” stated Kaler. For more information, visit <https://www.charleycreekinn.com/charley-creek-inn-100th-anniversary>. *Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplainedealer.com*

PULSE

From page A1

that have been operating as curbside or delivery only. Shopping malls can open at 50 percent capacity with indoor common areas restricted to 25 percent capacity. Restaurants and bars that serve food may open starting Monday, May 11 at 50 percent capacity, but bar seating will remain closed. Personal services such as hair salons, barbershops, nail salons, spas and tattoo parlors also may open Monday, May 11 by appointment only and must follow social distancing guidelines. Starting Friday, May 8, for all of the state’s counties, indoor worship services may also convene, following specific social distancing guidelines – while those 65 and older and those at elevated risk will be asked to stay home. For more information, visit BackOnTrack.in.gov.

Red Cross schedules blood donation opportunity for Wednesday

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation opportunity from 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 13 at Richvalley Community Center, 56 W. Mill St.

Farmers market season set to begin May 16

The Downtown Wabash Farmers Market opens from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 16 in the Honeywell Center/Wabash Elk’s Parking Lot. The market occurs every Saturday through Sept. 26. If you are interested in becoming a vendor or volunteering at the event, call 260-563-0975 or visit www.wabashmarketplace.org.

Red Cross schedules blood donation opportunity for May 19

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation opportunity from noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 19 at First United Methodist Church, 110 N. Cass St.

Online absentee ballot applications must be completed, received by May 21

Any registered voter may request an absentee ballot for the June 2 Primary Election. To vote absentee-by-mail, vot-

ers who qualify must complete an absentee-by-mail application. These are available online at www.IndianaVoters.com. Voters may also submit their request by mail, email or fax. The application must be completed and received by the county election board or the Indiana Election Division by May 21. After an application has been received, the voter will be mailed a Primary Election ballot. The voter must then complete the ballot, and return it to the county election board by noon Election Day, June 2.

Local absentee, early, in-person voting details announced

Any registered voter may vote by absentee for the June 2 primary election by requesting an absentee ballot. To request an absentee-by-mail application, call 260-563-0661 ext. 1238. In-person early voting is available beginning Tuesday, May 26. Wabash County voters may vote at OJ Neighbors school gymnasium, 1545 N Wabash St. Early voting will take place from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, May 26 through Friday, May 29, and from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, May 30. Voting will also take place at this location from 8 a.m. to noon Monday, June 1. On June 2, Election Day, the only two places open to vote in Wabash County will be O J Neighbors School gymnasium at 1545 N Wabash St., and North Manchester High School gymnasium, 1 Squire Drive, North Manchester.

Mural festival seeks local artists

Make It Your Own Mural Fest, organized by the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership and Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne, is asking artists to apply for the Artist and Mentorship Programs as part of the 11-day mural festival scheduled for Sept. 8 to 18. Make It Your Own Mural Fest is also searching for volunteers for the Mentorship Program. Applications are available at www.NElmuralfestival.com and are open through the end of May.

Red Cross schedules blood donation opportunity for June 2

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation opportunity from 2 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 2 at the Wabash County YMCA, 500 S. Cass St.

25th annual WACCY golf outing prepares to tee off

Registration is now open for Grow Wabash County’s 25th Annual WACCY Golf Outing, scheduled for Wednesday, June 3 at the Honeywell Public Golf Course. Grow Wabash County has also scheduled a back-up date of Thursday, July 30 in the case that the social distancing recommendations are still in effect come June. Registration is \$360 per four-person team. For more information, visit www.growwabashcounty.com/events, email marketing@growwabashcounty.com or call 260-563-5258.

Wabash Kiwanis Club Pancake Day officially rescheduled

The Wabash Kiwanis Club’s annual Pancake Day has been rescheduled to Saturday, June 6 at the Bruce Ingraham building at the Wabash County Fairgrounds. The event’s Pancake Eating Contest will take place at noon. Pancakes, with or without blueberries, will be available, along with sausages and refreshments. Tickets will be \$8 at the door and \$7 in advance for adults 13 and older and \$5 at the door and \$4 in advance for children ages 6 to 12. Admission for the event will be free for children 5 and younger. Sponsorship opportunities for businesses are available by emailing Kiwanian Donna Siders at donnasiders@hotmail.com or calling 260-571-1892. For more info, email keaffaberm@msdwc.k12.in.us.

Red Cross schedules blood donation opportunity for June 6

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation opportunity from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 6 at Scotty’s Bar, 780 Manchester Ave.

Woman’s Clubhouse hopes to pick up events in August

Out of an abundance of caution, the Woman’s Clubhouse will not meet for its final luncheon of the 2019-2020 season in June. The group will send the 2020-2021 program and luncheon schedule in August for the new year and they will vote on officers for the new calendar year in September. Anyone who would like to nominate someone for an office should call Ellen Stouffer at 260-571-5339.

Opinion

Keep focus on coronavirus, not on China

Beyond the most profound health impacts worldwide – including in Minnesota, which on Thursday reported its 508th COVID-19 fatality – the coronavirus pandemic has infected economics and geopolitics to crisis levels, too.

It’s imperative to mitigate the damage while the world waits for a vaccine that can end this scourge. But that will be more difficult, and thus deadly, if China and America devolve deeper toward a U.S.-U.S.S.R.-style Cold War.

“This is the most perilous moment since World War II,” Ryan Hass, a fellow at the Brookings Institution’s China Center, told an editorial writer. “This is the most acute public-health crisis that the world has faced in a century. It’s hitting every major country simultaneously. The ability of world powers to collaborate is severely diminished; multilateral institutions like the World Health Organization, the U.N., the G-7, the G-20 just aren’t functional.”

The injuries these institutions have endured is due in part to hostility from Washington, where President Donald Trump has undermined confidence and cooperation in postwar entities meant to guide and galvanize the world through a crisis. If these multinational organizations cannot curb the virus, efforts must be led by Beijing and Washington. But at the moment,

Hass notes, “the U.S.-China relationship is in free fall and there doesn’t appear to be any effort in Beijing and Washington to preserve its capacity to collaborate in arresting the spread of the virus or destruction that it is causing.”

Instead, Hass continued, “those countries are trying to place the other in the worst possible light on the international stage.”

The motivation is domestic politics for President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping. Xi may not face a November election but is suddenly vulnerable despite previous veneration of his leadership that made him China’s most powerful leader since Mao.

Trump, as well as Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, have alleged – without evidence – that the virus emerged from a lab in Wuhan and not naturally through animal-to-human transmission, as most experts believe. There’s also talk among some supporters of the administration about pressing for reparations, or even not paying some of the debt the U.S. owes China.

These moves have alienated allies – including those who rightfully take umbrage at Beijing’s manipulative extraction of praise in exchange for desperately needed equipment. Instead, the president should be rallying allies, and indeed the world, in a coordinated coronavirus effort as well as in a longer-term response to a rising China.

For China, “trying to impose its narrative of the coronavirus both internationally but more importantly domestically is important for the leadership to rehabilitate and consolidate its position and legitimacy in the system,” Hung Tran, a nonresident senior fellow at the Atlantic Council, told an editorial writer. He added that it may also embolden China to take a more dangerous stance toward Taiwan, Hong Kong and its maritime claims in the South China Sea.

Xi’s geopolitical push is also about “trying to generate more widespread support among Chinese for how quickly and efficiently and presumably effectively the Chinese have come out of this while the rest of the world, especially America, can’t seem to control the virus,” Evan Medeiros, the chair of Asian Studies at Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service, told an editorial writer. As for Trump, Medeiros said, “this is largely for him a recognition that blaming China deflects responsibility from the cascade of shortcomings within the United States.”

China clearly deserves some blame. Wuhan was the epicenter, regardless of how the virus originated, and the Chinese Communist Party suppressed the information that could have

helped contain COVID-19 to a regional outbreak, not a global pandemic that’s breaking the world’s economy, and order.

On a longer-term basis, Beijing has a horrific human rights record toward Tibetans, Uighurs and others. It’s also the world’s biggest jailer of journalists, it threatens neighboring nations with its territorial aggression, and it makes a practice of illegitimate, if not illegal, trade practices.

These, and other issues like an overreliance on China for essential materials, will need to be strategically assessed by the U.S. and its allies regardless of who wins November’s election. But for now the literal life-or-death imperative is the pandemic.

“The only way to make the United States safe is to stamp out the virus in every corner of the world,” Hass said. “The only way to stamp out the virus in every corner of the world is to align international efforts to do so, and there’s no pathway to doing that without China on board. And so it’s time to tone down the rhetoric, take a break from the finger pointing, and roll up our sleeves and figure out how to get our arms around the problem.

“The American people,” Hass rightfully concluded, “deserve it.”

This editorial was first published in the Star-Tribune.

This isn’t good for anyone

It is time to ask once again, in all seriousness, whether the president of the United States is of sound mind.

Even by his own standards, President Trump’s recent ranting and raving on Twitter was bizarre and disturbing. I know there are commentators who see his eruptions as some kind of genius-level communications strategy, a way of bonding himself to his loyal base by sending messages at dog-whistle frequencies others cannot hear. Others justify these tantrums as a way for an embattled president to blow off steam. But there is a simpler and more disturbing interpretation: What you see is what you get.



Eugene Robinson

And what we got was a whole lot of crazy. It’s not good for the country, and it doesn’t seem very good for the president, either.

The president opened the floodgates holding back a reservoir of grievance on Sunday afternoon with the claim that “people that know me and know the history of our Country say that I am the hardest working President in history.” Over the course of three tweets, it emerged that he was angry about an article in the New York Times – a paper he claims not to read – questioning his work ethic during the pandemic.

Then things got really weird. In his next barrage of tweets, Trump demanded to know: “When will all of the ‘reporters’ who have received Noble Prizes for their work on Russia, Russia, Russia, only to have been proven totally wrong (and, in fact, it was the other side who committed the crimes), be turning back their cherished ‘Nobles’ so that they can be given to the REAL REPORTERS AND JOURNALISTS who got it right?... When will the Noble Committee Act?”

Where to begin? Could the president really have intended to refer to “Nobel” prizes and simply misspelled the name? And since there is no Nobel awarded for journalism, could he have been thinking of the Pulitzer Prize won by journalists, including those at The Post, for their work covering Russian interference in the 2016 election?

Those who see Trump as a brilliant communicator might think the garble was deliberate, an invitation to snooty know-it-alls to jump all over him so he could portray himself to his aggrieved base as a victim of fake-news “elites.” But this view is inconsistent with what happened later in the day.

Trump tweeted a purported explanation: “Does anybody get the meaning of what a so-called Noble (not Nobel) Prize is, especially as it pertains to Reporters and Journalists? Noble is defined as, ‘having or showing fine personal qualities or high moral principles and ideals.’ Does sarcasm ever work?”

“Sarcasm” is becoming a familiar claim from the president. After speculating nonsensically last week at a coronavirus briefing that disinfectants or powerful light could be used “inside the body” to combat COVID-19, and being widely ridiculed for the suggestion, Trump claimed he was just being sarcastic. But it’s not much of a defense when Trump invokes it while also trying to make the comments he is justifying disappear. At some point overnight, the earlier “Noble Prize” tweets vanished from Trump’s feed (though not before journalists had archived them).

If these episodes aren’t strategy, what are they? If tweeting and retweeting attacks on The Post, CNN, MSNBC and even Fox News calmed Trump, his apologists might argue that they’re a form of recreation. But the pressure doesn’t seem to be going down. It seems to be mounting.

I’m not making a diagnosis, but rather just stating the obvious. If a loved one were raging in such a manner you’d worry about his or her well-being. You’d hope it was just a bad spell. You might attempt to investigate, if only with a text reading: “R u ok?” We can only hope someone in Trump’s life is doing the same for him.

I can understand why Trump would be frustrated, seeing his plan to run for reelection on the strength of the economy ruined. I understand why he might be impatient for things to get back to normal. I’m impatient, too.

But it is objectively worrisome how much time the president spends venting his frustration and impatience. It is worrisome that he seems to engage in magical thinking about a miracle cure that will suddenly make everything better. It is alarming that a man with so little apparent self-control has so much power.

And there’s nothing we can do about it until November.

Eugene Robinson’s email address is eugenerobinson@washpost.com



Why are you cast down,
O my soul, and why are
you in turmoil within me?
Hope in God; for I shall
again praise him, my
salvation and my God.

- Psalm 42:11



Mother’s Day and unmeasured economics

The occasion of Mother’s Day demands a column of sentimentality. To my mind, there’s nothing better suited to the day than a review of National Income Accounts and Gross Domestic Product. Of course, COVID-19 and its urgent effects upon both will animate this column.

In times like these, economists and many others watch the employment and economic growth numbers. The latter of these is typically the annualized change in Gross Domestic Product over the last quarter. Not surprisingly, these most recent data were ugly, reporting that GDP dropped by 4.8 percent at an annualized rate. That means the measured economy in March was about 1.2 percent lower than in December after adjusting for seasonal differences. But what does this tell us about what is happening in our economy?

The answer is less than we should hope for. Our GDP fails to count most of those things we do at home, for which money is not transacted. As we grow more affluent and can better exploit the division of labor, GDP naturally rises. A century ago, when a much larger share of Americans grew or raised their own food and cooked it, cut one another’s hair and made their own clothes, measured GDP per person was much lower. Even accounting for inflation, we have a higher GDP today than a century ago, simply because we count more types of exchange.

Obviously, the division of labor

gives us better quality in some aspects of our lives. Barbering is better now than a century ago, as are options for lawn care, medicine or transportation. As Adam Smith explained in 1775, this simple act of getting really good at one task is productivity improving. It grows GDP, not just because we count it, but because we are better at it. Still, we do much at home that is not measured as part of our economy, but failing to measure it does not mean it doesn’t happen. Recent events give us just such an example.

There are roughly 330 million Americans who eat three or so meals per day. I have two teenage boys at home, so we average roughly four meals per day. On average, close to one million meals are consumed by Americans each day, with about 20 percent consumed at restaurants. The restaurant industry is about \$800 billion in sales, or roughly \$200 per month for the average American.

Over the past month and a half, most U.S. restaurants have closed, or serve only carry out. I don’t know how many meals are still consumed each week from carry out. Still, it is safe to say that American families are making well over 100 million more meals at home each day than they were two months ago. This has a big impact on measured GDP. We continue to count the value of the groceries that goes into these meals, but that is a small share of it total value. We fail to count the value of the meal preparation in our official statistics.

The COVID-19 crisis causes a small but not trivial share of measured GDP to disappear as it is done at home. Meal prepara-

tion is the obvious example, but all kinds of other personal services from personal trainers, home cleaning, laundry services, dog walkers, haircuts and the like simply disappear from the official measures. This is not because the services aren’t being performed, but because they aren’t measured.

Perhaps we should measure these activities better, but I’m not sure how important that really is. The purpose of measuring economic activity is to inform responsive economic policy. We have a pretty good idea of damages right now without measuring the value of home production. Moreover, it is hard enough to make a good accounting of how much I spend at restaurants and personal services. Imagine the difficulty of placing a dollar value me walking my own dog?

What we are more likely to do during this crisis and in the years ahead is to re-evaluate how we individually value these unmeasured parts of GDP. I suspect this will cause us to change how and where we consume goods, not just during this Covid-19 crisis, but long afterwards. One early indicator of that will be meals eaten at home in the months after this crisis recedes. Of course there’ll be a big spike in restaurant sales as Americans head to their favorite watering holes and diners. But, after a few weeks, we might see a return to home cooked meals.

Large consumption changes such as this have consequences. Obviously, this would be unwelcome news for restaurants, as well as the local governments who rely on food and beverage taxes. This would also affect grocery stores, and the types of food they buy. Restaurants are better

consumers of locally produced food than many groceries, so these changes affect farms and produce providers as well.

These changes also affect families. Meals consumed at home provide more intense family time than many other settings. Some families will find this beneficial, and continue the ritual for that purpose as well. Eating at home is less expensive in measured dollars, but requires labor inputs not measured. I write about these matters in the shadow of Mother’s Day. That is appropriate, because a disproportionate share of unmeasured work falls to women, particularly those who happen to have kids.

Maybe this crisis will cause some adjustments in homebound economics. Perhaps we’ll have kids who learn to cook or assist at meals, and maybe gain a more enduring appreciation for those skills. Maybe we will see a shift in the gendered division of labor at home. It is likely that more men can work from home than women.

All of these will be interesting develops to watch for and talk about at those meals we spend together. In a generation, when children who are not yet born hear about these times, they will doubtless ask questions about these issues. We will face the same sorts of questions those who lived through the Great Depression or World War II were asked. Whatever else our answers to these questions, I hope that we can all say that we did something to make this a memorable Mother’s Day, even if you can’t give your mom a hug.

Michael J. Hicks, Ph.D., is the director of the Center for Business and Economic Research at Ball State University.

Friendship ends with flood of social media messages

DEAR ABBY: I had this friend that I met eight months ago at a local boxing gym here in Chicago. We got along extremely well and even hung out a couple of times. However, she left her job at the gym two months later and things started falling apart. I started sending excessive messages on her social media, and she didn't like it. By the following month, she had enough. She told me I have an unhealthy attachment to her and we would go our separate ways. She blocked me from all social media, and she hasn't contacted me since.

Four months later, I am better, but she is still in my head. I really want to write her a nice and sincere letter and reconcile with her and have her be my friend again. I didn't know that I was doing something wrong.

I have tried reaching out to her multiple times recently via email, to no avail. In the meantime, one of her friends told me she has moved to Texas, which makes it even more heartbreaking. How can I show her I can be her friend again without exhibiting those same "toxic" behaviors? — Guy With A Wounded Heart

DEAR GUY: You have already done enough. You have done so much, in fact, that the young woman felt she was being stalked. She has sent you clear signals that she's not interested in being friends — or anything more — with you. For your own sake, take the hint, leave her alone and, please, learn from this experience so you won't repeat it with someone else.

DEAR ABBY: I am 60, and my husband is 64. We lost everything in the recession. A dear friend helped us get back on our feet, and my son and husband built a home on land we purchased with our last dollar. We have a mortgage and all the bills that come with it. We have no savings, pension or life insurance. I work 40 hours a week, and my husband is partially disabled from an autoimmune disease.

My son, who is studying to become an RN, is 33. He lives with us and pays \$550 a month, which pays the property taxes. He has slowly brought his girlfriend into our home, whom we like, but she does not contribute financially. I have asked my son for some extra money, and he refused. We will always appreciate how he pitched in and helped us in creating a new home. What can I do without starting a family war? — Keeping The Peace

DEAR KEEPING: It would have been interesting to know what reason your son gave you for his refusal. Continue talking with him about it. Unless the girlfriend is unemployed, she should at least pay for her food and a share of the utilities if she is living in your home.

DEAR READERS: This is National Women's Health Week. Because of the current health crisis, taking care of your health is now more important than ever. Make it a priority. Eat healthy, give yourself the gift of exercise, manage your stress levels, get the sleep you need, and schedule that appointment to see your doctor or dentist as soon as they are seeing patients again. Take steps to eliminate behaviors that put you at risk — smoking, texting while driving and not wearing a seatbelt. Your health is your most precious possession, so please, take care of it. For more information, visit womenshealth.gov. — Love, Abby

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

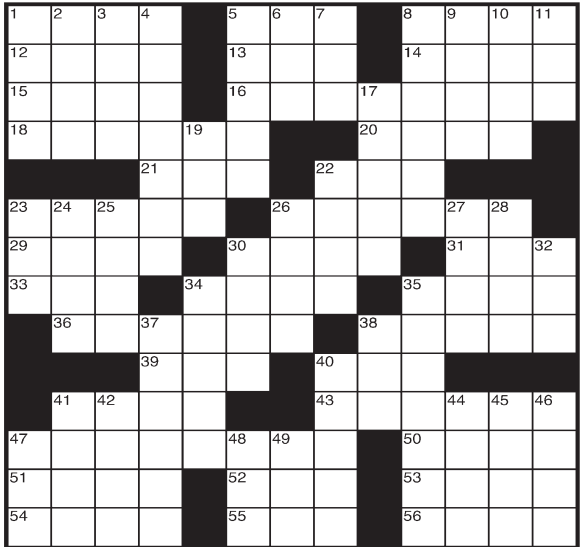
Dear Abby



CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Reassures
 - 5 Crusty dessert
 - 8 Packs grocery purchases
 - 12 Not include
 - 13 Expertise
 - 14 Sinister
 - 15 Jazz singer — Simone
 - 16 In a safe manner
 - 18 Pines for
 - 20 Costa —
 - 21 Compete
 - 22 Censor
 - 23 Raze
 - 26 Swelled outward
 - 29 Elevator guy
 - 30 Mongrels
 - 31 Golfer's benchmark
 - 33 Literary miscellany
 - 34 Agreement
 - 35 Miff
 - 36 Rite sites
 - 38 Participated in a 10K
 - 39 Gym iteration
- DOWN**
- 1 Small horse
 - 2 Yves' girl
 - 3 Singer — Turner
 - 4 Is very hungry
 - 5 Not chic
 - 6 Rage
 - 7 Common abbr.
 - 8 Sea off
 - 9 With, to
 - 10 Large lizard

- Answer to Previous Puzzle**
- 11 Sneaky
17 Europe-Asia dividers
19 Zilch
22 Mr. Bacharach
23 Hawaii's Mauna —
24 Sicily's erupter
25 Tiny bottle
26 Tampa Bay gridders, for short
27 DeMille genre
28 Valley
30 Find fault
32 Blushing
34 Hymn of praise
- 35 Bunnies
37 Young no-show
38 Skipped town
40 Fold-up mattress
41 — mater
42 Turns right
44 Verge
45 Fritz's refusal
46 Not playing with a full deck
47 Rotating part
48 Cries at a circus
49 Actress Thurman



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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

2		6		7		1			
	7	4		3	9	8			
8		9	2	6		3		4	
		3	8						
	6	1		9		7	4		
				7	5				
3	7		1	4	2		9		
		5	7	2	4	8			
		2		8	6		7		

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION								
4	3	6	2	5	1	7	8	9
8	7	1	4	9	3	5	2	6
2	9	5	8	6	7	1	3	4
6	5	9	7	8	4	3	1	2
7	1	8	6	3	2	9	4	5
3	4	2	5	1	9	6	7	8
9	8	4	3	7	5	2	6	1
1	2	3	9	4	6	8	5	7
5	6	7	1	2	8	4	9	3

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

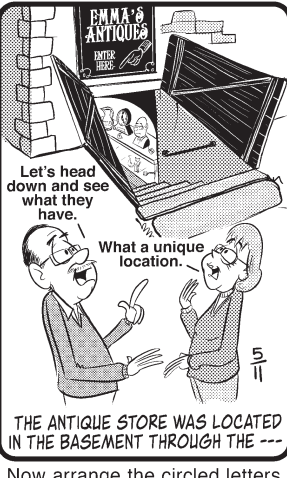
ENLRI
DOYDL
MRADYE
PXOEES

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Ans. "here:" (Answers tomorrow)
Saturday's Jumbles: OCCUR MACAW UNLOCK RUFFLE
Answer: After the teenager's party, his parents wanted him to clean up the — "WRECK" ROOM

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

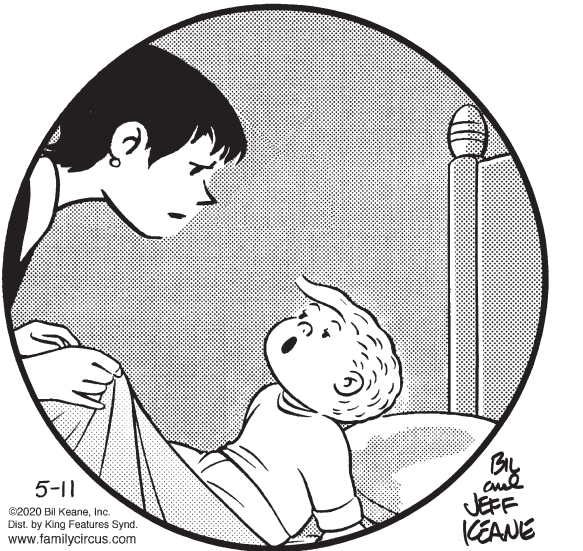
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

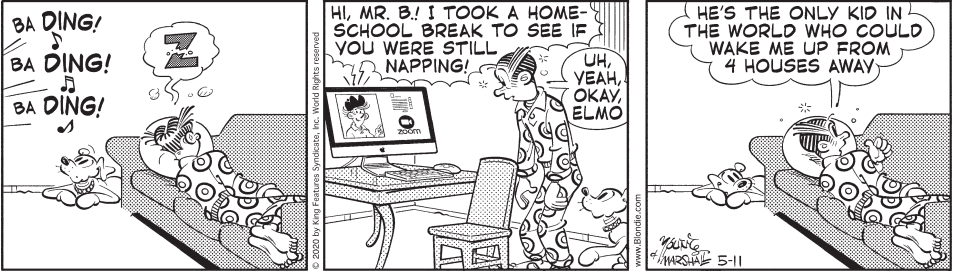


"Can you sing me a lovabye?"

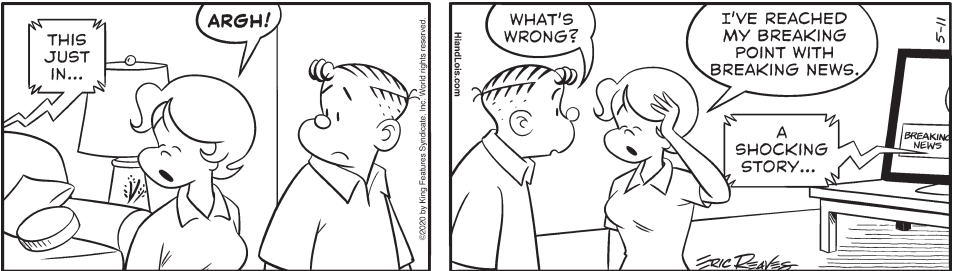
BEETLE BAILEY



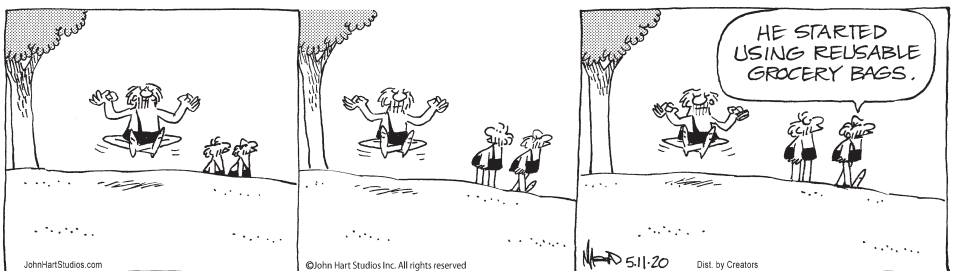
BLONDIE



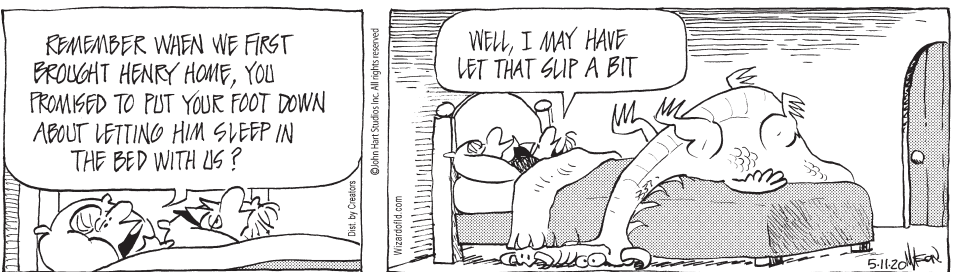
HI & LOIS



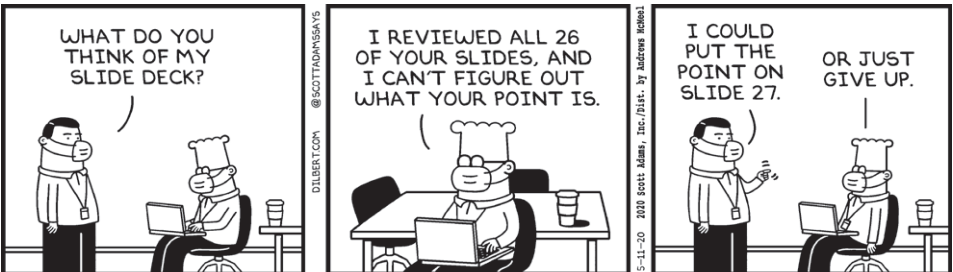
BC



WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT



GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



PICKLES



Never stop praying

Q: I hear so much about prayer today in America but see little result. Does this really work? — D.P.

A: Today the world is being carried on a rushing torrent that is sweeping out of control. Only one power is available to redeem the course of events, and that is the power of prayer. Someone once said that "it is probable that a nation cannot keep its freedom without the aid of Almighty God."

Today our nation has the highest standard of living in the world, and yet we're in danger of leaving God out of our lives. In our nation, from the top to the bottom, we need a spiritual awakening, a spiritual renewal that reaches even to the capital of the country. Unless world leaders turn to God in

prayer, their best plans will fail.

If millions of us would avail ourselves of the privilege of prayer, the course of events could be changed.

How quickly and carelessly we pray. Snatches of memorized verses are hastily spoken in the morning, then we rush through the day, closing with a few petitions at night before going to bed.

The Bible tells us to "pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ

Jesus for you" (1 Thessalonians 5:17-18). This should be the motto of every follower of Jesus Christ. Never stop praying no matter how dark or how hopeless it may seem.

The most vital prayer is asking, "God, be merciful to me a sinner!" (Luke 18:13). Asking the Lord to forgive our sin leads to transformed lives, making us new people. He will do it now in every life that submits to Him, and new horizons of spiritual victory will add a new dimension to life.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"EI ZGI IHVIGBHU ZH BHJGIZKBHUPN
LZHUIGRWK DIGBRL RY RWG MBKVRGN.
TWV B'X ZH RDVBXBKV." — KVIDMIH
MZEFBHU

Previous Solution: "I love her to death. ... The older I get, the more I find myself like my mom." — Vanessa Hudgens on Gina Gnanco

TODAY'S CLUE: 3 5 1 2 4 6 7 8 9

Late wife’s
best friend
stiff-arms
man’s interest

DEAR ABBY: My wife passed away, and I have fallen in love with her best friend. She feels she would be disrespecting my wife’s name if she went out with me. How

Dear Abby



can I let her know my wife would not object to us dating? I don’t know how to get her to understand my vows to my wife have been fulfilled with her passing. I will never forget her, and she will always be in my heart. But I feel I have room in my heart for this woman. She is a great person, and at some point I would like to have her as my wife. Advice, please? – Going Forward In Texas

DEAR GOING: You have stated your points both succinctly and pragmatically. It’s understandable that you would be drawn to her, considering the close relationship you already had, I assume for many years. If you have told this lady what you have written to me as plainly as you stated it in your letter, and her feelings remain unchanged, it is possible that she is not as attracted to you as you are to her. And, if that’s the case, she should say so in plain English so you can look elsewhere.

DEAR ABBY: My fiance and I got engaged a few months ago and have been getting mixed messages from our parents about our wedding next year. Overall, they seem happy for us, but they don’t show much interest in our relationship, or the wedding either.

Since we are gay, we are unsure whose, if any, parents we should ask to help us pay for the wedding. My fiance’s parents are very conservative and most likely wouldn’t volunteer to contribute. My parents are likely the only ones who would help, but they haven’t made any offers.

We both have full-time jobs, but they are middle to low income, so help would be appreciated. Part of me resents them for not offering any help since their parents pitched in for their festivities and because they will undoubtedly expect invitations. Any advice you can give would be appreciated. – Marrying In The West

DEAR MARRYING: Welcome to the world of gay weddings, a subject that has cropped up since 2015, when it was legalized in all 50 states. There are no hard and fast rules covering this. Modern couples, both straight and gay, often pay for their own weddings to the extent their budgets allow.

While you and your fiancé might raise the subject of pitching in with your parents, in the interest of family harmony, please try not to do it with prior resentments or expectations. Whether they agree or decline, you will be fine, and your day will be special.

DEAR ABBY: I was invited to a baby shower. Because of the virus that’s going around, many people weren’t planning on going, so they canceled the party. Should I still take them the gift I bought for their baby? Or should I just forget it because they canceled the baby shower? – Bearing A Gift In New Mexico

DEAR BEARING A GIFT: Do not “just forget it.” The kind – and generous – way to handle it would be to give the mother-to-be the gift, remembering that, in spite of the shower being canceled, she will need things for her baby.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Passports
- 4 Large family
- 8 Hand part
- 12 Scatter seeds
- 13 Make over
- 14 “Miami Vice” cop
- 15 Uris hero
- 16 Made the most of
- 17 Likelihood
- 18 Fate
- 20 Noticed
- 22 Talk online
- 23 Clump of dirt
- 26 Casual top (hyph.)
- 30 Murky
- 32 Bank feature
- 35 – Enterprise
- 36 Shop tool
- 37 Bradley or Sharif
- 38 54, to Flavius
- 39 Early Peruvian
- 40 Ms. Claiborne
- 41 Spoke hoarsely

43 Like

- Beethoven
- 45 Harlow or Stapleton
- 48 Hwy.
- 50 Made cat noises
- 52 – grip!
- 55 Baldwin or Guinness
- 57 Distant
- 58 Moby Dick foe
- 59 Bulletproof attire
- 60 Ms. Hagen
- 61 Doctrines
- 62 Sorority letters
- 63 Easy toss

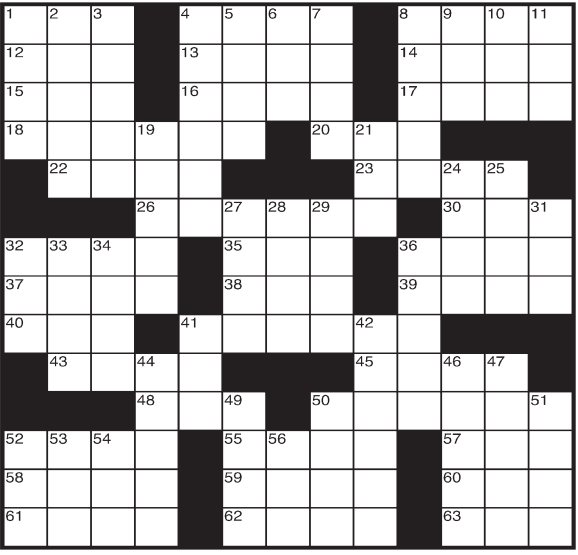
DOWN

- 1 Ms. Dinesen
- 2 Column order
- 3 Rustle
- 4 Vinegar bottles
- 5 In case
- 6 Juice-based drink
- 7 Gives silent assent

Answer to Previous Puzzle



- 8 Go about stealthily
- 9 Facilitate
- 10 Arith. term
- 11 Yr. fractions
- 19 Alma –
- 21 Pretend
- 24 Norse deity
- 25 Frisbee, e.g.
- 27 Maui dance
- 28 Cow-headed goddess
- 29 Host’s plea
- 31 Call – cab
- 32 Note before la
- 33 In the thick of
- 34 Perturb
- 36 YouTube offering
- 41 Rural addr.
- 42 Releases a CD
- 44 Sheiks, usually
- 46 Terrible
- 47 “Peachy keen!”
- 49 Keep
- 50 Oater
- 51 Colorless
- 52 Moo goo – pan
- 53 Codgers’ queries
- 54 Highland
- 56 Permit



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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

	5			7	1	6		
		7			6			3
8	6	4		5	3	9	7	1
6			7		5	3	4	9
9	7	8	3		4			2
4	9	6	5	1		2	3	8
1			4			7		
		2	6	9			1	

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

2	3	6	4	7	8	1	9	5
1	7	4	5	3	9	8	2	6
8	5	9	2	6	1	3	7	4
7	4	3	8	5	6	9	1	2
5	6	1	3	9	2	7	4	8
9	2	8	1	4	7	5	6	3
3	8	7	6	1	4	2	5	9
6	9	5	7	2	3	4	8	1
4	1	2	9	8	5	6	3	7

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LPXEE
T O I D T
S N Y I N K
L O T I V E

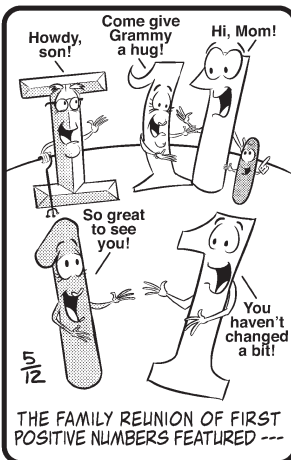
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Answer here:

Yesterday’s Jumbles: LINER ODDLY DREAMY EXPOSE
Answer: The antique store was located in the basement through the – “SELLER” DOOR

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

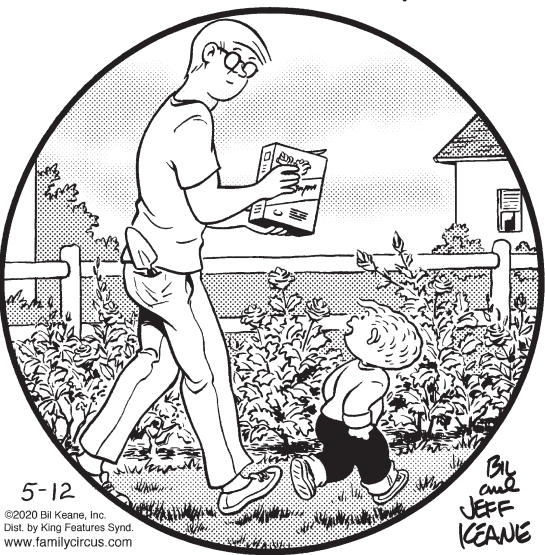


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

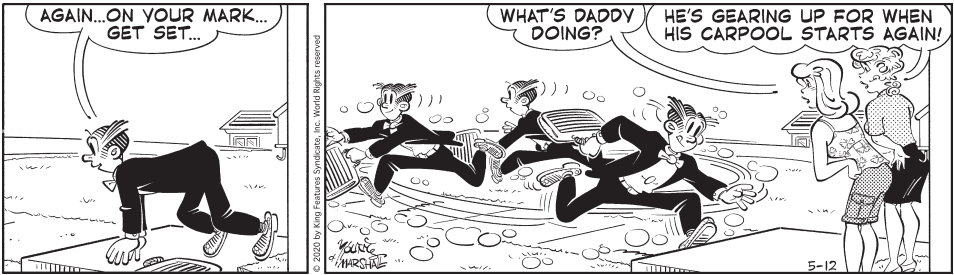


“Rose food? Can I stay and watch them eat?”

BEETLE BAILEY



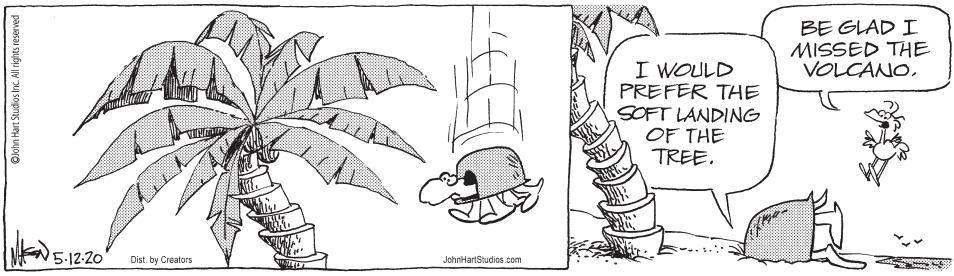
BLONDIE



HI & LOIS



BC



WIZARD OF ID



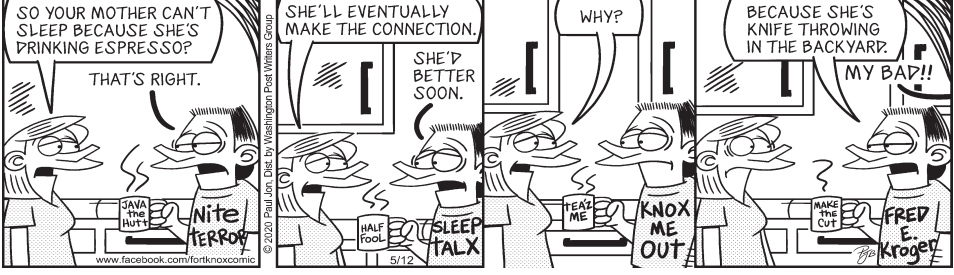
DILBERT



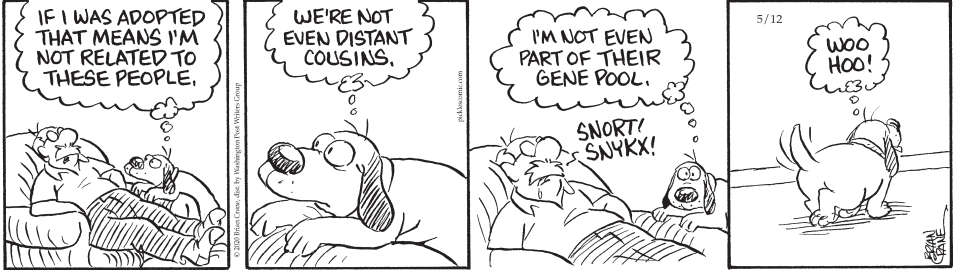
GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



PICKLES



What a Christian is

Q: A cable news network recently asked a panel of political and religious leaders what being an evangelical meant and no one could answer. They even struggled to properly define what being a Christian means. Since so many people align themselves with these terms, yet follow very different religious beliefs, is there a clear definition? – P.E.

A: Those who identify as Christians often do not fully understand what Christ has done for them. But for those who have surrendered their lives completely to Him, they accept Christ’s redeeming work on the cross for mankind.

The word “Christian” actually means “a partisan for Christ.” In our political culture the word “partisan” is a word that is understandable. It

means to take sides. It means we are committed to something or someone. Partisans are not neutral. So this is a wonderful way to describe who and what a Christian is. But many people struggle with this. Some say, “A Christian is a person who prays” or “A Christian lives by the golden rule.” But praying or living by the golden rule doesn’t make someone a Christian. A person may be sincere, but that doesn’t make him or her a Christian. Being a Christian is serious business! It means to accept Christ as personal Savior and

obey His Word written in the Bible. It means to deny worldly pleasures and seek to please God in all things. It means to follow Jesus faithfully and joyfully. When Christians falter – and we do – we confess our sin to the Lord and ask Him to strengthen us. We can never live the Christian life on the highest plane unless we are continually growing and moving forward. We should grow closer to God day by day as we strive to live as a shining light in a godless society and stand up for that which is right, just, and honorable.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos
Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“ ‘WPBX’ VUR KXURXI, ‘RCUKX’ VUR
SUOPRVXI. LX OAL TPSX PO U FTAHUT
SPTTUFX ... U RPBETWUOXAER
VUCCXOPOF.” – BUGRVUTT BKTEVUO

Previous Solution: “We are entering an increasingly dangerous period of our history. But I’m an optimist.” — Stephen Hawking

TODAY’S CLUE: G is enba F



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